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 United States of America

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
 FOR THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,)	WESTERN DIVISION
)	NO. CV
Plaintiff,)	
)	VERIFIED COMPLAINT FOR
vs.)	<u>FORFEITURE</u>
)	[21 U.S.C. § 881(a)(6)]
\$174,125.00 IN U.S. CURRENCY,)	
)	[D.E.A.]
Defendant.)	
)	
)	

The United States of America brings this claim against the
 defendant \$174,125.00 in U.S. currency ("defendant currency")
 and alleges as follows:

13 NOV -4 PM 3:08
 CLERK U.S. DISTRICT COURT
 CENTRAL DIST. OF CALIF.
 LOS ANGELES

FILED

CV 13-8152 BW (MAN)

1 JURISDICTION AND VENUE

2 1. This is a civil forfeiture action brought pursuant to
3 21 U.S.C. § 881(a)(6).

4 2. This court has jurisdiction over the matter under 28
5 U.S.C. §§ 1345 and 1355.

6 3. Venue lies in this district pursuant to 28 U.S.C.
7 § 1395(b).

8 PERSONS AND ENTITIES

9 4. The plaintiff is the United States of America.

10 5. The defendant is \$174,125.00 in U.S. Currency and
11 consists of (i) \$47,691.00 seized from La Brea Compassionate
12 Caregivers, 735 N. La Brea Avenue, Los Angeles, California; (ii)
13 \$89,922.00 seized from Zen Healing Collective, 8464 Santa Monica
14 Boulevard, West Hollywood, California; and (iii) \$36,512.00
15 seized from Alternative Herbal Health Services, 7828 Santa
16 Monica Boulevard, West Hollywood, California.

17 6. The defendant currency was seized on April 16, 2013,
18 and is in the custody of the United States Marshals Service,
19 where it shall remain subject to this court's jurisdiction
20 during the pendency of this action.

21 7. The interests of Andrew Kramer may be adversely
22 affected by these proceedings.

23 EVIDENCE SUPPORTING FORFEITURE

24 8. Andrew Kramer ("Kramer") is the head of a marijuana
25 trafficking organization operating in the Los Angeles, CA area
26 (hereinafter "Kramer DTO") that distributes marijuana retail
27 (through his store locations) and wholesale to marijuana stores.
28 Kramer also distributes marijuana to other areas of the United

1 States, including New Jersey, South Carolina and North Carolina
2 via the United States Postal Service. Kramer has assisted in
3 establishing and maintaining multiple marijuana stores in the
4 Los Angeles area and has received significant monetary
5 compensation for doing so. Several enforcement actions have
6 been taken against the Kramer DTO.

7 9. On January 2, 2006, the Los Angeles Police Department
8 ("LAPD") executed a search warrant at North Valley Discount
9 Caregivers ("NVDC"), a marijuana store. Detectives seized
10 approximately 17 kilograms of marijuana and marijuana products
11 from the store. Detectives also discovered documents related to
12 the business and identified Kramer as the store owner. Days
13 later, NVDC reopened for business.

14 10. In conjunction with the LAPD, the DEA initiated an
15 investigation into NVDC and Kramer.

16 11. On September 28, 2006, the DEA executed search
17 warrants at NVDC and a residence identified as a stash location,
18 which was located a few blocks away. The DEA seized
19 approximately 95 kilograms of marijuana and marijuana products
20 from NVDC and approximately 17 kilograms of marijuana and
21 marijuana products and \$50,000 in U.S. currency from the stash
22 house. Interviews conducted of employees at NVDC revealed
23 Kramer's ownership of multiple marijuana stores throughout Los
24 Angeles County. It was also discovered that Kramer coordinated
25 with Pacific Support Services ("PSS"), a "medical" marijuana
26 recommendation writing service, to provide all-inclusive
27 services for customers seeking to acquire marijuana. Kramer
28 also used PSS bank accounts to launder proceeds from his

1 marijuana stores. On the same date, the DEA seized four Bank of
2 America bank accounts, all in Kramer's name, containing funds
3 totaling approximately \$93,000.

4 12. On January 17, 2007, the DEA executed search warrants
5 at two of Kramer's marijuana stores in West Hollywood, CA. At
6 West Hollywood Center for Compassionate Healing ("WHCCH"), also
7 known as The Sunset Shop, the DEA seized approximately 379
8 kilograms of marijuana and marijuana products and \$21,000 in
9 U.S. currency. At California Cannabis Pharmaceuticals ("CCP"),
10 later renamed Zen Healing Collective ("ZHC"), the DEA seized
11 approximately 116 kilograms of marijuana and marijuana products
12 and \$6,000 in U.S. currency. Bank accounts were identified and
13 frozen.

14 13. On January 19, 2007, the DEA seized approximately
15 \$36,000 from five separate bank accounts. Four accounts were in
16 Kramer's name and one was in the name of Kramer and PSS.

17 14. On November 2, 2007, the LAPD executed a search
18 warrant at 105/405, a marijuana store in Los Angeles.
19 Detectives seized approximately 12 kilograms of marijuana and
20 marijuana products. Kramer was determined to be the owner of
21 this store.

22 15. On February 3, 2009, the DEA executed a search warrant
23 at Marina Caregivers, a marijuana store in Marina Del Rey. The
24 DEA discovered documents that listed Kramer as being on Marina
25 Caregivers' payroll, receiving an annual salary of \$150,000.

26 16. On September 21, 2010, the LAPD Postal Interdiction
27 Team intercepted a package mailed from Columbia, South Carolina
28 to ZHC. Detectives went to ZHC and spoke with employees and

1 Kramer. Detectives determined that the recipient was fictitious
2 and no one at ZHC claimed the package. Detectives obtained a
3 warrant for the package and discovered approximately \$18,000 in
4 U.S. currency.

5 17. On February 24, 2011, the LAPD, while conducting
6 surveillance of Kramer at ZHC, observed an unknown male ("UM1")
7 exit ZHC with four packages. The UM1 took the packages to a
8 post office and mailed two packages, weighing approximately four
9 pounds each, to Rahway, New Jersey. The other two packages,
10 also weighing approximately four pounds each, were mailed to
11 Columbia, South Carolina. The LAPD intercepted the packages and
12 discovered that each contained marijuana.

13 18. On March 15, 2011, the DEA executed search warrants at
14 two of Kramer's marijuana stores in West Hollywood, CA and
15 Kramer's residence. At ZHC, the DEA seized approximately 441
16 kilograms of marijuana and marijuana products, 542 marijuana
17 plants and \$271,000 in U.S. currency. While at ZHC, a UPS
18 package was delivered to ZHC. The package originated from North
19 Carolina and contained approximately \$30,000 in U.S. currency.
20 Cristhiane Beatie, the wife of Kramer's brother, was present
21 during the search warrant execution. Beatie stated that she was
22 an employee of ZHC and that Kramer entrusted her with depositing
23 money into bank accounts for ZHC. At Alternative Herbal Health
24 Services ("AHHS"), the DEA seized approximately 149 kilograms of
25 marijuana and marijuana products, 251 marijuana plants, and
26 \$34,000 in U.S. currency.

27 19. On May 11, 2012, special agents of the Internal Revenue
28 Service ("IRS") and DEA Agents executed two seizure warrants at

1 JP Morgan Chase and BB&T. Subsequently, the DEA seized five JP
2 Morgan Chase bank accounts and one BB&T bank account, all
3 belonging to the Kramer DTO, totaling \$1,254,831.

4 20. On July 16, 2012, the DEA and the Beverly Hills Police
5 Department ("BHPD") met with a BHPD Confidential Informant
6 ("CI1") concerning his/her knowledge of the Kramer DTO. Within
7 the following three weeks, CI1 provided information that
8 included the following:

9 a. Kramer has an ownership interest in multiple
10 marijuana stores, including ZHC, AHHS, La Brea Compassionate
11 Caregivers ("LBCC"), located at 735 North La Brea, Los Angeles,
12 CA, and Marina Caregivers. North Valley Discount Caregivers
13 ("NVDC") was a marijuana store that was owned by Kramer, but is
14 now closed.

15 b. Kramer's mother, Rosalinda Levenson Kramer runs
16 PSS. Dr. James Eisenberg was the doctor who wrote the "medical"
17 marijuana recommendations. Cristhiane Beatie, aka "Sarah," did
18 the money pick-ups at the end of the work day. Beatie is the
19 wife of Kramer's brother, Matthew Kramer.

20 c. ZHC is operated mostly by Beatie. Ana, aka
21 "Sheriff," also runs the store. Ana is believed to be Anahi E.
22 Gutierrez. Kramer purchased a house for Gutierrez. Kramer also
23 owns several other properties, and Beatie was overheard speaking
24 of purchasing property in Brazil.

25 d. The Kramer DTO receives marijuana from outside
26 vendors only. Kramer once had a marijuana grow next to ZHC but
27 it has not been operational since the DEA executed a search
28

1 warrant there. The Kramer DTO also had a marijuana grow in
2 downtown Los Angeles, but it is no longer operational.

3 21. On March 20, 2013, the BHPD and DEA conducted an
4 interview of another BHPD Confidential Informant ("CI2") in
5 regards to his relationship with the Kramer DTO. CI2 provided
6 the following information:

7 a. CI2 met Kramer around 2005 at the Sunset Shop, a
8 marijuana distribution storefront. CI2 would go to the Sunset
9 Shop to obtain marijuana for personal use.

10 b. In May 2011, Kramer made contact with CI2, and
11 spoke to CI2 about the marijuana business. CI2 introduced
12 Kramer to methods of trafficking marijuana out of state. Kramer
13 also asked CI2 if he (CI2) could find people to "close down
14 shops." Kramer asked CI2 specifically if CI2 could burn down
15 the Sunset Shop. The Sunset Shop, originally owned by Kramer,
16 was taken over by the property owner, George Lanning, his wife,
17 Nansee, and son, Justin.

18 c. A couple of months later, CI2 introduced Kramer to
19 methods of out of state shipping of marijuana. CI2 had a
20 contact in North Carolina and Kramer developed contacts in South
21 Carolina, North Carolina, and Maryland. CI2 believed Kramer did
22 the majority of shipping marijuana out of state with CI2.
23 Kramer and CI2 split the profits 50/50. Kramer would supply the
24 marijuana and CI2 would ship it. The United States Postal
25 Service was used primarily as the shipper. The recipients of
26 the packages were instructed to deposit payments into Wells
27 Fargo and Bank of America bank accounts.

1 22. On April 16, 2013, the DEA executed Federal search
2 warrants at LBCC, ZHC, and AHHS.

3 23. As a result of the search at LBCC, law enforcement
4 officers seized \$47,691.00 in U.S. currency (a portion of the
5 defendant currency) from a locked safe in the office area.
6 Officers also seized approximately 74 kilograms of processed
7 marijuana, 156.6 kilograms of marijuana edibles, 6 kilograms of
8 hashish and one firearm.

9 24. As a result of the search at ZHC, law enforcement
10 officers seized \$4,146.00 in U.S. currency (a portion of the
11 defendant currency) from the cash register in the dispensary
12 room and \$85,776.00 in U.S. currency (a portion of the defendant
13 currency) from a safe located on the second floor. Officers
14 also seized 356 kilograms of processed marijuana, 338 kilograms
15 of marijuana edibles, 44.6 kilograms of hashish, and 12
16 kilograms of hash oil.

17 25. As a result of the search at AHHS, law enforcement
18 officers seized \$36,512.00 in U.S. currency (a portion of the
19 defendant currency) from a safe. Officers also seized an
20 unknown amount of marijuana, in plant, processed, and edible
21 forms, from AHHS, along with an unknown amount of hash.

22 26. Based on the above, plaintiff alleges that the
23 defendant currency represents or is traceable to proceeds of
24 illegal narcotics trafficking, or was intended to be used in one
25 or more exchanges for a controlled substance or listed chemical,
26 in violation of 21 U.S.C. § 841 et seq. The defendant currency
27 is therefore subject to forfeiture pursuant to 21 U.S.C. §
28 881(a)(6).

1 WHEREFORE, plaintiff United States of America prays that:

2 (a) due process issue to enforce the forfeiture of the
3 defendant currency;

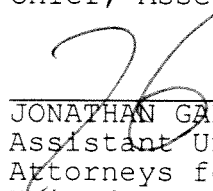
4 (b) due notice be given to all interested parties to
5 appear and show cause why forfeiture should not be decreed;

6 (c) that this Court decree forfeiture of the defendant
7 currency to the United States of America for disposition
8 according to law; and,

9 (d) for such other and further relief as this Court may
10 deem just and proper, together with the costs and disbursements
11 of this action.

12 DATED: November 4, 2013

13 ANDRÉ BIROTTE JR.
14 United States Attorney
15 ROBERT E. DUGDALE
16 Assistant United States Attorney
17 Chief, Criminal Division
18 STEVEN R. WELK
19 Assistant United States Attorney
20 Chief, Asset Forfeiture Section

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JONATHAN GALATZAN
Assistant United States Attorney
Attorneys for Plaintiff
United States of America

I, Patrick Kelly, hereby declare that:

2. I have read the above Verified Complaint for Forfeiture and know its contents. It is based upon my own personal knowledge and reports provided to me by other law enforcement agents.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

AM KH
PATRICK KELLY

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

NOTICE OF ASSIGNMENT TO UNITED STATES JUDGES

This case has been assigned to District Judge George H. Wu and the assigned Magistrate Judge is Margaret A. Nagle.

The case number on all documents filed with the Court should read as follows:

2:13CV8152 GW MANx

Pursuant to General Order 05-07 of the United States District Court for the Central District of California, the Magistrate Judge has been designated to hear discovery related motions.

All discovery related motions should be noticed on the calendar of the Magistrate Judge.

Clerk, U. S. District Court

November 4, 2013

Date

By J. Prado

Deputy Clerk

NOTICE TO COUNSEL

A copy of this notice must be served with the summons and complaint on all defendants (if a removal action is filed, a copy of this notice must be served on all plaintiffs).

Subsequent documents must be filed at the following location:

☒ Western Division
312 N. Spring Street, G-8
Los Angeles, CA 90012

☐ Southern Division
411 West Fourth St., Ste 1053
Santa Ana, CA 92701

☐ Eastern Division
3470 Twelfth Street, Room 134
Riverside, CA 92501

Failure to file at the proper location will result in your documents being returned to you.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT, CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
CIVIL COVER SHEET

COPY

I. (a) PLAINTIFFS (Check box if you are representing yourself ☐)

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

DEFENDANTS (Check box if you are representing yourself ☐)

\$174,125.00 IN U.S. CURRENCY

(b) Attorneys (Firm Name, Address and Telephone Number. If you are representing yourself, provide same information.)

ANDRÉ BIROTTE JR., United States Attorney
JONATHAN GALATZAN, Assistant United States Attorney, California Bar No. 190414
United States Attorney's Office, 312 N. Spring Street, 14th Fl., Los Angeles, CA 90012
Telephone: (213) 894-2727 / Facsimile: (213) 894-7177

(b) Attorneys (Firm Name, Address and Telephone Number. If you are representing yourself, provide same information.)

II. BASIS OF JURISDICTION (Place an X in one box only.)

- ☒ 1. U.S. Government Plaintiff ☐ 3. Federal Question (U.S. Government Not a Party)
- ☐ 2. U.S. Government Defendant ☐ 4. Diversity (Indicate Citizenship of Parties in Item III)

III. CITIZENSHIP OF PRINCIPAL PARTIES-For Diversity Cases Only
(Place an X in one box for plaintiff and one for defendant)

- | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Citizen of This State | PTF <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | DEF <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | Incorporated or Principal Place of Business in this State | PTF <input type="checkbox"/> 4 | DEF <input type="checkbox"/> 4 |
| Citizen of Another State | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 | Incorporated and Principal Place of Business in Another State | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 |
| Citizen or Subject of a Foreign Country | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 | Foreign Nation | <input type="checkbox"/> 6 | <input type="checkbox"/> 6 |

IV. ORIGIN (Place an X in one box only.)

- ☒ 1. Original Proceeding ☐ 2. Removed from State Court ☐ 3. Remanded from Appellate Court ☐ 4. Reinstated or Reopened ☐ 5. Transferred from Another District (Specify) ☐ 6. Multi-District Litigation

V. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT: JURY DEMAND: ☐ Yes ☒ No (Check "Yes" only if demanded in complaint.)**CLASS ACTION under F.R.Cv.P. 23:** ☐ Yes ☒ No **MONEY DEMANDED IN COMPLAINT:** \$**VI. CAUSE OF ACTION** (Cite the U.S. Civil Statute under which you are filing and write a brief statement of cause. Do not cite jurisdictional statutes unless diversity.)
21 U.S.C. § 881(a)(6)**VII. NATURE OF SUIT** (Place an X in one box only.)

OTHER STATUTES	CONTRACT	REAL PROPERTY CONT.	IMMIGRATION	PRISONER PETITIONS	PROPERTY RIGHTS
<input type="checkbox"/> 375 False Claims Act	<input type="checkbox"/> 110 Insurance	<input type="checkbox"/> 240 Torts to Land	<input type="checkbox"/> 462 Naturalization Application	Habeas Corpus:	<input type="checkbox"/> 820 Copyrights
<input type="checkbox"/> 400 State Reapportionment	<input type="checkbox"/> 120 Marine	<input type="checkbox"/> 245 Tort Product Liability	<input type="checkbox"/> 465 Other Immigration Actions	<input type="checkbox"/> 463 Alien Detainee	<input type="checkbox"/> 830 Patent
<input type="checkbox"/> 410 Antitrust	<input type="checkbox"/> 130 Miller Act	<input type="checkbox"/> 290 All Other Real Property	TORTS	<input type="checkbox"/> 510 Motions to Vacate Sentence	<input type="checkbox"/> 840 Trademark
<input type="checkbox"/> 430 Banks and Banking	<input type="checkbox"/> 140 Negotiable Instrument	TORTS	PERSONAL PROPERTY	<input type="checkbox"/> 530 General	SOCIAL SECURITY
<input type="checkbox"/> 450 Commerce/ICC Rates/Etc.	<input type="checkbox"/> 150 Recovery of Overpayment & Enforcement of Judgment	<input type="checkbox"/> 310 Airplane	<input type="checkbox"/> 370 Other Fraud	<input type="checkbox"/> 535 Death Penalty	<input type="checkbox"/> 861 HIA (1395ff)
<input type="checkbox"/> 460 Deportation	<input type="checkbox"/> 151 Medicare Act	<input type="checkbox"/> 315 Airplane Product Liability	<input type="checkbox"/> 371 Truth in Lending	Other:	<input type="checkbox"/> 862 Black Lung (923)
<input type="checkbox"/> 470 Racketeer Influenced & Corrupt Org.	<input type="checkbox"/> 152 Recovery of Defaulted Student Loan (Excl. Vet.)	<input type="checkbox"/> 320 Assault, Libel & Slander	<input type="checkbox"/> 380 Other Personal Property Damage	<input type="checkbox"/> 540 Mandamus/Other	<input type="checkbox"/> 863 DIWC/DIWW (405 (g))
<input type="checkbox"/> 480 Consumer Credit	<input type="checkbox"/> 153 Recovery of Overpayment of Vet. Benefits	<input type="checkbox"/> 330 Fed. Employers' Liability	<input type="checkbox"/> 385 Property Damage Product Liability	<input type="checkbox"/> 550 Civil Rights	<input type="checkbox"/> 864 SSID Title XVI
<input type="checkbox"/> 490 Cable/Sat TV	<input type="checkbox"/> 160 Stockholders' Suits	<input type="checkbox"/> 340 Marine	BANKRUPTCY	<input type="checkbox"/> 555 Prison Condition	<input type="checkbox"/> 865 RSI (405 (g))
<input type="checkbox"/> 850 Securities/Commodities/Exchange	<input type="checkbox"/> 190 Other Contract	<input type="checkbox"/> 345 Marine Product Liability	<input type="checkbox"/> 422 Appeal 28 USC 158	<input type="checkbox"/> 560 Civil Detainee Conditions of Confinement	FEDERAL TAX SUITS
<input type="checkbox"/> 890 Other Statutory Actions	<input type="checkbox"/> 195 Contract Product Liability	<input type="checkbox"/> 350 Motor Vehicle	<input type="checkbox"/> 423 Withdrawal 28 USC 157	FORFEITURE/PENALTY	<input type="checkbox"/> 870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff or Defendant)
<input type="checkbox"/> 891 Agricultural Acts	<input type="checkbox"/> 196 Franchise	<input type="checkbox"/> 355 Motor Vehicle Product Liability	CIVIL RIGHTS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 625 Drug Related Seizure of Property 21 USC 881	<input type="checkbox"/> 871 IRS-Third Party 26 USC 7609
<input type="checkbox"/> 893 Environmental Matters	REAL PROPERTY	<input type="checkbox"/> 360 Other Personal Injury	<input type="checkbox"/> 440 Other Civil Rights	<input type="checkbox"/> 690 Other	
<input type="checkbox"/> 895 Freedom of Info. Act	<input type="checkbox"/> 210 Land Condemnation	<input type="checkbox"/> 362 Personal Injury-Med Malpractice	<input type="checkbox"/> 441 Voting	LABOR	
<input type="checkbox"/> 896 Arbitration	<input type="checkbox"/> 220 Foreclosure	<input type="checkbox"/> 365 Personal Injury-Product Liability	<input type="checkbox"/> 442 Employment	<input type="checkbox"/> 710 Fair Labor Standards Act	
<input type="checkbox"/> 899 Admin. Procedures Act/Review of Appeal of Agency Decision	<input type="checkbox"/> 230 Rent Lease & Ejectment	<input type="checkbox"/> 367 Health Care/Pharmaceutical Personal Injury Product Liability	<input type="checkbox"/> 443 Housing/Accommodations	<input type="checkbox"/> 720 Labor/Mgmt. Relations	
<input type="checkbox"/> 950 Constitutionality of State Statutes		<input type="checkbox"/> 368 Asbestos Personal Injury Product Liability	<input type="checkbox"/> 445 American with Disabilities-Employment	<input type="checkbox"/> 740 Railway Labor Act	
		<input type="checkbox"/> 446 American with Disabilities-Other	<input type="checkbox"/> 448 Education	<input type="checkbox"/> 751 Family and Medical Leave Act	
				<input type="checkbox"/> 790 Other Labor Litigation	
				<input type="checkbox"/> 791 Employee Ret. Inc. Security Act	

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:

Case Number:

CV13-8152

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT, CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
CIVIL COVER SHEET

VIII. VENUE: Your answers to the questions below will determine the division of the Court to which this case will most likely be initially assigned. This initial assignment is subject to change, in accordance with the Court's General Orders, upon review by the Court of your Complaint or Notice of Removal.

Question A: Was this case removed from state court? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No If "no," go to Question B. If "yes," check the box to the right that applies, enter the corresponding division in response to Question D, below, and skip to Section IX.	STATE CASE WAS PENDING IN THE COUNTY OF: <input type="checkbox"/> Los Angeles <input type="checkbox"/> Ventura, Santa Barbara, or San Luis Obispo <input type="checkbox"/> Orange <input type="checkbox"/> Riverside or San Bernardino	INITIAL DIVISION IN CACD IS: Western Western Southern Eastern
---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Question B: Is the United States, or one of its agencies or employees, a party to this action? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If "no," go to Question C. If "yes," check the box to the right that applies, enter the corresponding division in response to Question D, below, and skip to Section IX.	If the United States, or one of its agencies or employees, is a party, is it:		INITIAL DIVISION IN CACD IS:
	A PLAINTIFF? Then check the box below for the county in which the majority of DEFENDANTS reside.	A DEFENDANT? Then check the box below for the county in which the majority of PLAINTIFFS reside.	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Los Angeles	<input type="checkbox"/> Los Angeles	Western
	<input type="checkbox"/> Ventura, Santa Barbara, or San Luis Obispo	<input type="checkbox"/> Ventura, Santa Barbara, or San Luis Obispo	Western
	<input type="checkbox"/> Orange	<input type="checkbox"/> Orange	Southern
	<input type="checkbox"/> Riverside or San Bernardino	<input type="checkbox"/> Riverside or San Bernardino	Eastern
	<input type="checkbox"/> Other	<input type="checkbox"/> Other	Western

Question C: Location of plaintiffs, defendants, and claims?	A. Los Angeles County	B. Ventura, Santa Barbara, or San Luis Obispo Counties	C. Orange County	D. Riverside or San Bernardino Counties	E. Outside the Central District of California	F. Other
Indicate the location in which a majority of plaintiffs reside:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Indicate the location in which a majority of defendants reside:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Indicate the location in which a majority of claims arose:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

C.1. Is either of the following true? If so, check the one that applies:

- ☐ 2 or more answers in Column C
☐ only 1 answer in Column C and no answers in Column D

Your case will initially be assigned to the
SOUTHERN DIVISION.
 Enter "Southern" in response to Question D, below.
 If none applies, answer question C2 to the right. →

C.2. Is either of the following true? If so, check the one that applies:

- ☐ 2 or more answers in Column D
☐ only 1 answer in Column D and no answers in Column C

Your case will initially be assigned to the
EASTERN DIVISION.
 Enter "Eastern" in response to Question D, below.
 If none applies, go to the box below. ↓

Your case will initially be assigned to the
WESTERN DIVISION.
 Enter "Western" in response to Question D below.

Question D: Initial Division?	INITIAL DIVISION IN CACD
Enter the initial division determined by Question A, B, or C above: →	WESTERN

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT, CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
CIVIL COVER SHEET

IX(a). IDENTICAL CASES: Has this action been previously filed in this court and dismissed, remanded or closed? ☒ NO ☐ YES

If yes, list case number(s): _____

IX(b). RELATED CASES: Have any cases been previously filed in this court that are related to the present case? ☒ NO ☐ YES

If yes, list case number(s): _____

Civil cases are deemed related if a previously filed case and the present case:

- (Check all boxes that apply) ☐ A. Arise from the same or closely related transactions, happenings, or events; or
☐ B. Call for determination of the same or substantially related or similar questions of law and fact; or
☐ C. For other reasons would entail substantial duplication of labor if heard by different judges; or
☐ D. Involve the same patent, trademark or copyright, and one of the factors identified above in a, b or c also is present.

X. SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY

(OR SELF-REPRESENTED LITIGANT): _____

DATE: 11/4/2013

Notice to Counsel/Parties: The CV-71 (JS-44) Civil Cover Sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required pursuant to Local Rule 3-1 is not filed but is used by the Clerk of the Court for the purpose of statistics, venue and initiating the civil docket sheet. (For more detailed instructions, see separate instructions sheet).

Key to Statistical codes relating to Social Security Cases:

Nature of Suit Code	Abbreviation	Substantive Statement of Cause of Action
861	HIA	All claims for health insurance benefits (Medicare) under Title 18, Part A, of the Social Security Act, as amended. Also, include claims by hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, etc., for certification as providers of services under the program. (42 U.S.C. 1935FF(b))
862	BL	All claims for "Black Lung" benefits under Title 4, Part B, of the Federal Coal Mine Health and Safety Act of 1969. (30 U.S.C. 923)
863	DIWC	All claims filed by insured workers for disability insurance benefits under Title 2 of the Social Security Act, as amended; plus all claims filed for child's insurance benefits based on disability. (42 U.S.C. 405 (g))
863	DIWW	All claims filed for widows or widowers insurance benefits based on disability under Title 2 of the Social Security Act, as amended. (42 U.S.C. 405 (g))
864	SSID	All claims for supplemental security income payments based upon disability filed under Title 16 of the Social Security Act, as amended.
865	RSI	All claims for retirement (old age) and survivors benefits under Title 2 of the Social Security Act, as amended. (42 U.S.C. 405 (g))